

LESSON 6

Magna est veritas et praevallet.

The truth is great and it will prevail.—ESDRAS

Key Words

copious
macrocosm
magnanimous

magnate
magnitude

megalomania
polygamy
polygon

Familiar Word copy

Challenge Word cornucopia

Challenge Words macrobiotic macroscopic macrostructure

COPIA <L. "plenty"

- copious** (kō'pē əs)
adj. Plentiful; in large amounts.

The **copious** correspondence of Madame de Sévigné written to her daughter gives a vivid picture of life in the court of Louis XIV.

copiously, *adv.*



MAKROS <G. "large"

- macrocosm** (măk'rə kōz'əm) [*kosmos* <G. "universe"]
n. 1. The universe.

Theoretical physicists have attempted to determine the size of the **macrocosm**.

- Any great whole.

Try to imagine your own family in relation to the **macrocosm** of the human family.

macrocosmic, *adj.*

Antonym: **microcosm**

Familiar Words magnificent magnify

Challenge Words Magna Charta magnascope magniloquent magnum opus

MAGNUS <L. "great"

- magnanimous** (măg năn'ə məs) [*animus* <L. "mind," "spirit"]
adj. Noble and generous, especially in forgiving; not petty.

On her deathbed she made the **magnanimous** gesture of forgiving all debts owed her.

magnanimity, *n.*; **magnanimously**, *adv.*

- magnate** (măg'nāt, măg'nīt)
n. A wealthy, influential person, especially in business.

Ezra Cornell, a lumber **magnate**, left his fortune to found Cornell University.

- magnitude** (măg'nī tōōd, măg'nī tyōōd)
n. 1. Greatness of importance or size.

Early explorers of the South American coast had no idea of the **magnitude** of the continent.

- The degree of brightness of a star.

The constellation Orion contains two stars of the highest **magnitude**, Betelgeuse and Rigel.



Familiar Word
megaphone

Challenge Words
megacycle
megalith
megaton
megalopolis

MEGAS <G. "great"

6. **megalomania** (měg'ə lō măn'ē ə, mẽg'ə lō măn'yə) [*mania* <G. "madness"]

n. 1. A form of mental illness in which a person has exaggerated ideas of his or her own importance.

His **megalomania** prevents him from recognizing his faults or appreciating the talents of others.

2. An obsessive idea to do things on a grand scale.

Megalomania drove the couple to build a swimming pool larger than their modest house.

megalomaniac, *n.*

NOTA BENE: Both of the prefixes *demi* and *semi* indicate "half" or "partial." *Demi* usually means "less than full size or status" as in *demitasse*, a small cup. *Semi* means "part," as in *semiformal*, *semiofficial*, *semifinal*, or *semiprecious*, or it can indicate "half" as in *semicircle* or *semiannual*.

Challenge Words
polyglot
polygraph
polynomial
polyphonic
polysyllabic
polytechnic

POLY <G. "many"

7. **polygamy** (pə līg'ə mē) [*gamos* <G. "marriage"]

n. The system of having more than one spouse at a time.

Although **polygamy** was not generally practiced in ancient Greece, the rulers were allowed to be polygamous to guarantee that they would have heirs.

polygamous, *adj.*; **polygamously**, *adv.*

8. **polygon** (pōl'ē gŏn) [*gonia* <G. "angle"]

n. A flat shape with many straight sides.

Each of the five-pointed stars on the American flag is a **polygon**.

polygonal, *adj.*; **polygonally**, *adv.*

